



Survey of Librarian Attitudes About Open Access

Public Knowledge Project

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What we asked the respondents

- What do you think about academic library involvement in OA in general?
- What do you think about academic library involvement in specific types of OA projects?
- Are you involved in OA?
 - 28% are personally involved
- Is your library involved in OA?
 - 56% of libraries are involved
- Demographics.

Do respondents' opinions about OA have any correlation to how often they read or talk about OA?

Yes, there is a statistically significant correlation between OA attitudes and OA actions. It's a positive correlation, showing that more positive attitudes are related to more frequent actions.

How do respondents' institutions' involvement in the management of OA projects relate to respondents' opinions about OA?

There is only a **significant** effect for lack of involvement. Those institutions not involved in OA projects employed librarians with less positive attitude scores.

The same is not true for the other end of the spectrum.

How do respondents' involvement with the management of OA projects relate to their opinions about OA?

Individuals managing OA digital repositories and/or OA journals do not have a significantly more positive attitude toward OA.

BUT individuals involved in an OA education campaign do have more positive attitudes toward OA.

Does amount of time spent as a librarian have any correlation with respondents' involvement in the management of OA projects?

People who are personally involved in managing digital repositories have been librarians for fewer years ($M = 13.075$ years) than people not involved in managing the digital repositories ($M = 18.612$ years).

Does tenure status have any correlation with respondents' involvement in the management of OA projects?

Just comparing yes/no on personal involvement in managing OA, **nothing is significant with tenure status.**

81% of respondents involved in OA repositories are in positions that do NOT require that they obtain tenure.

70% of respondents involved in OA journals are in positions that do NOT require that they obtain tenure.

Do respondents' reported primary position types have any relationship to respondents' opinions about OA?

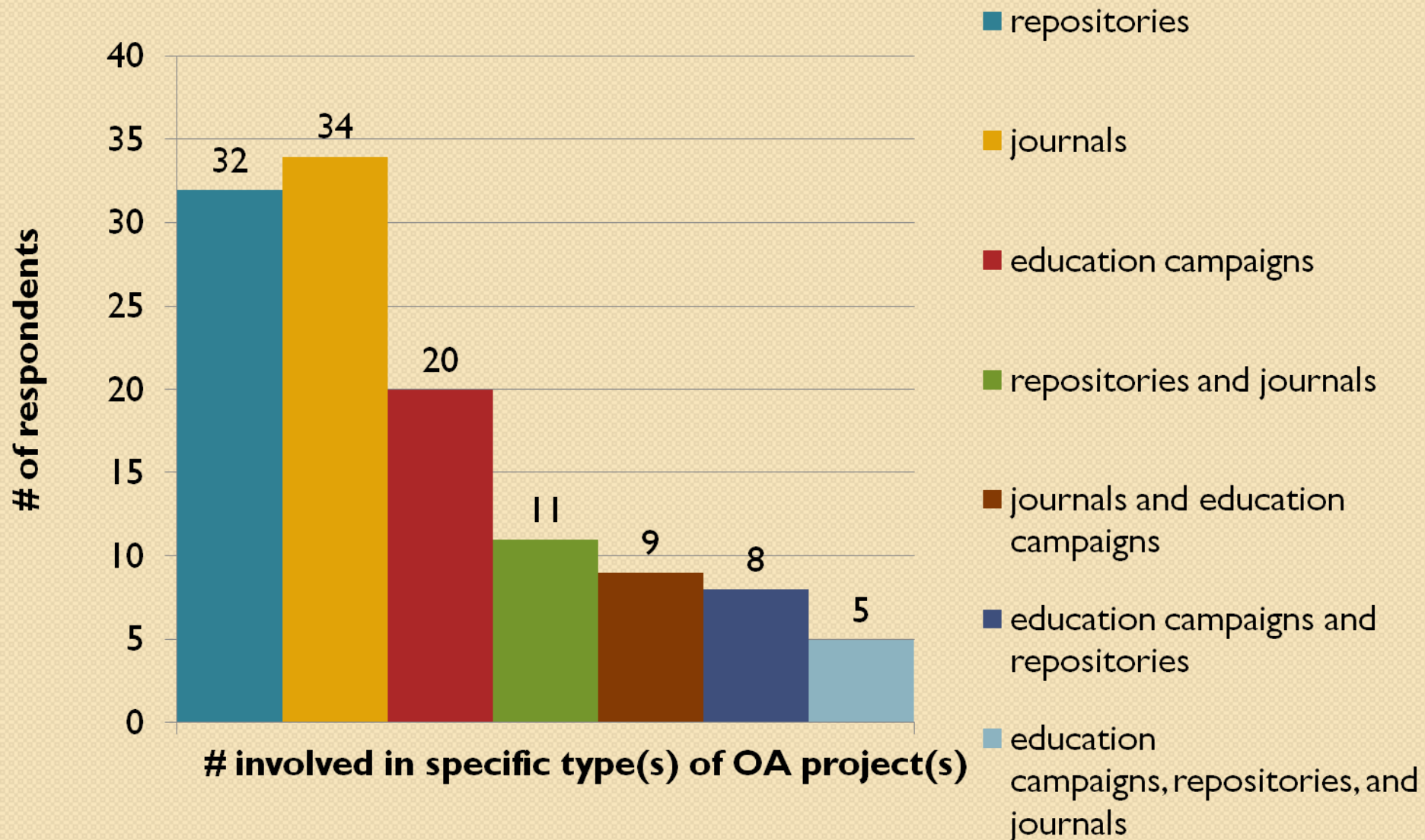
Ignoring those who marked “others”, position type does have an impact on attitudes toward OA.

When comparing different position types, **Acquisitions and Public Services** people both stood out as having less positive attitudes than many other position types.

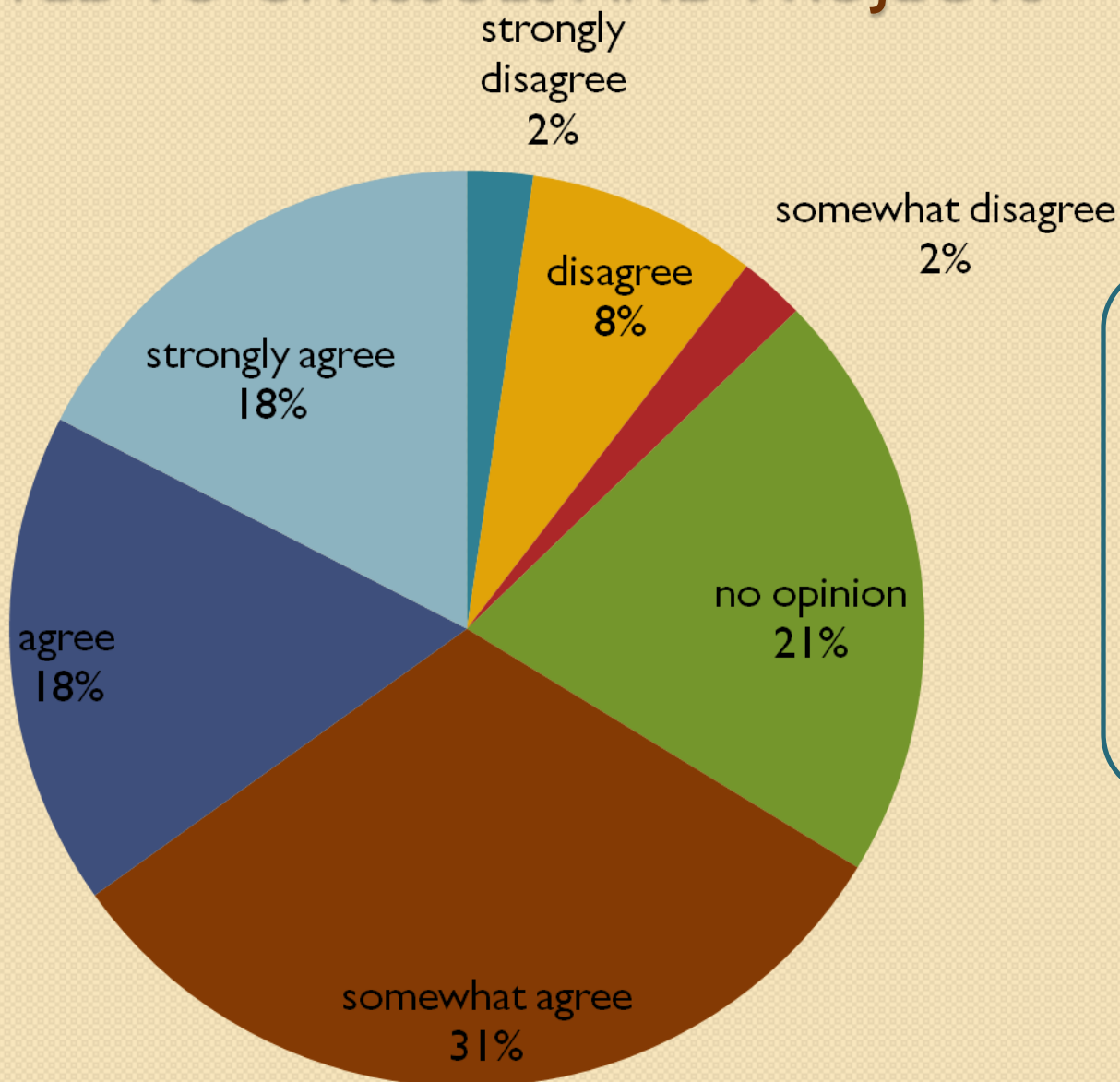
Does the highest level of degree granted by respondents' institutions have any relationship to the institutions' involvement in the management of OA projects?

There is a relationship between highest degree offered and institutional involvement in OA projects, with PhD granting institutions being more likely to be involved in managing OA projects than other institutions.

LIKELIHOOD OF BEING PERSONALLY INVOLVED IN MORE THAN ONE OA PROJECT

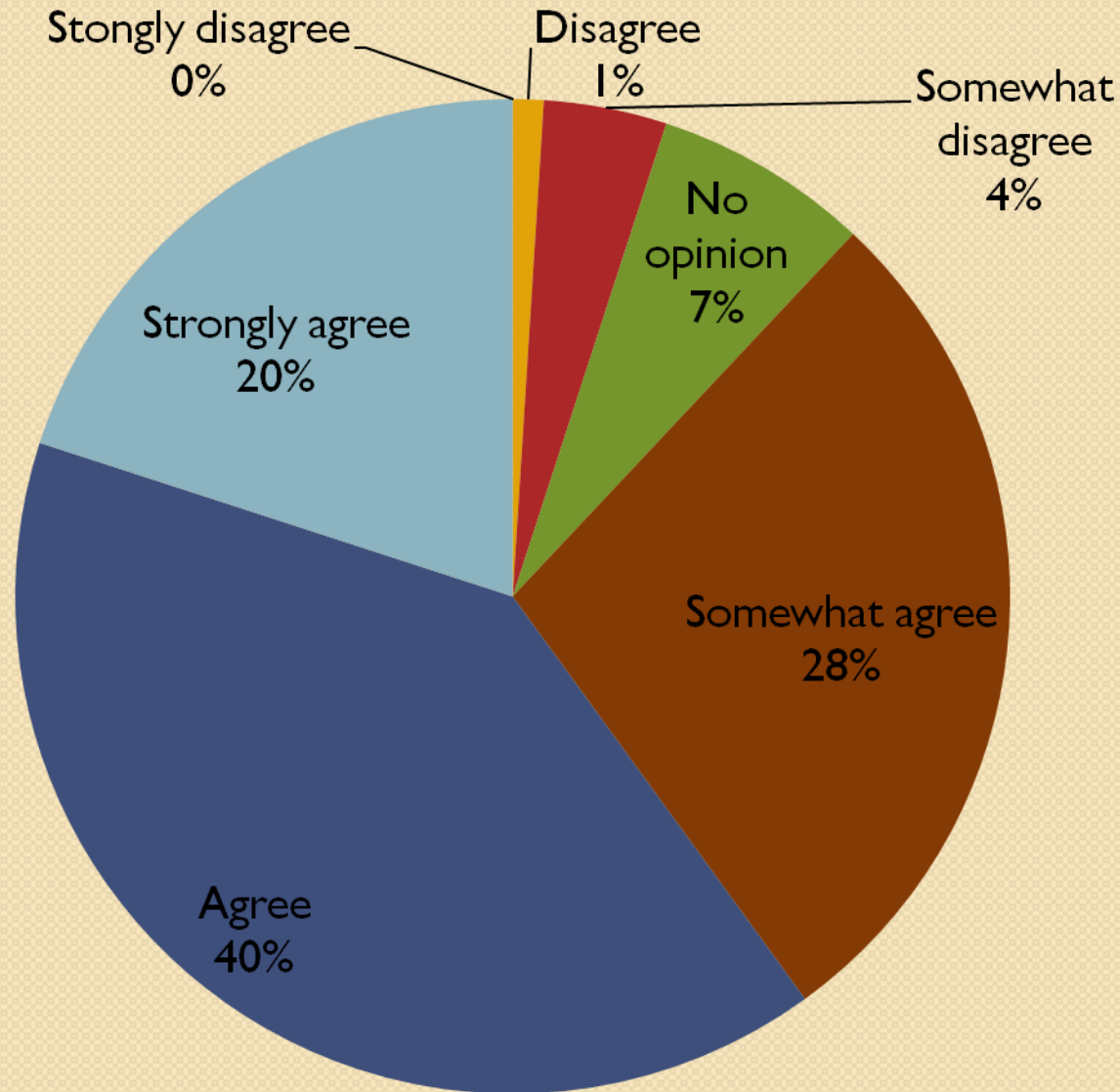


SUPPORT FOR PROFESSIONAL POSITION DEVOTED TO OA ISSUES AND PROJECTS



**Of the 86
respondents
who reported
being
personally
involved in at
least one OA
project**

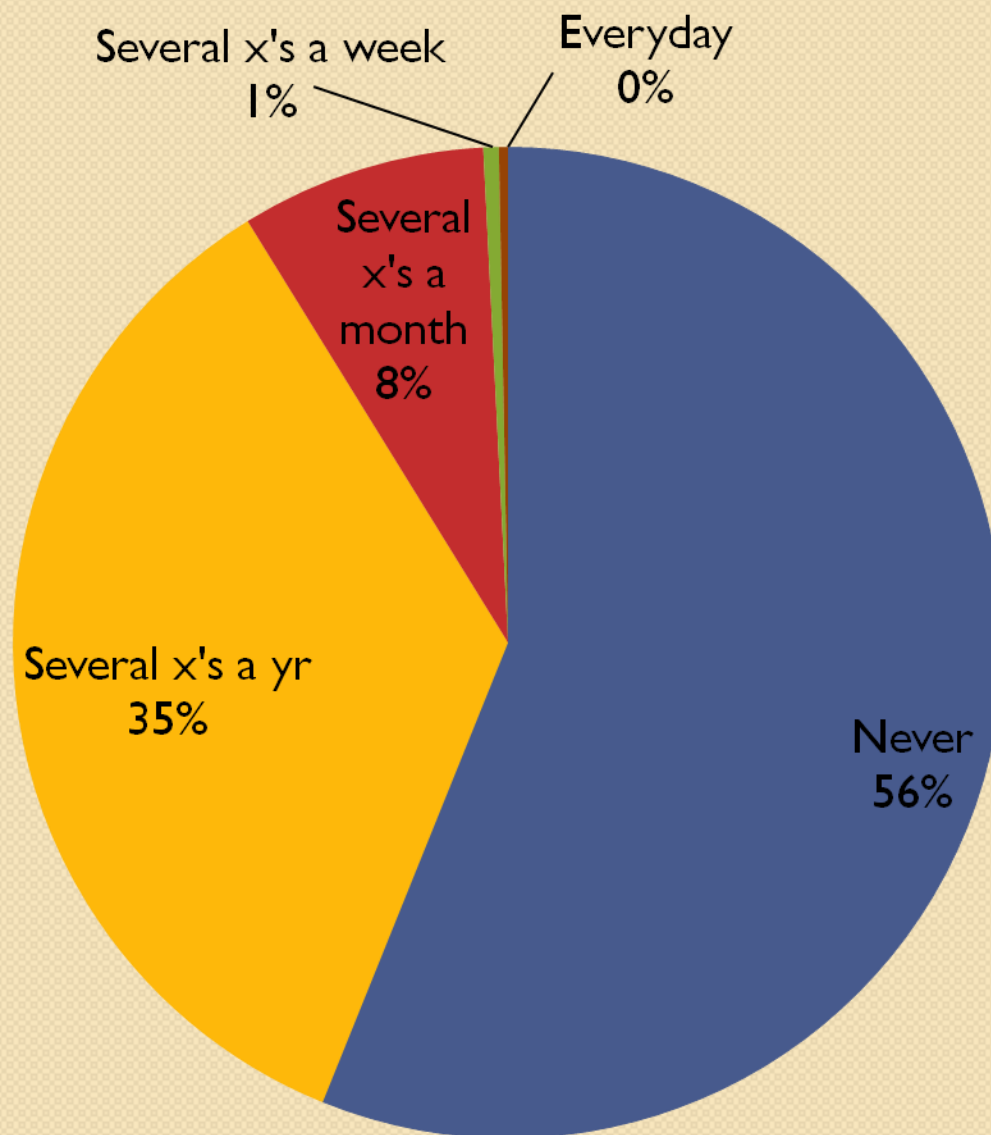
SUPPORT FOR LIBRARY AS ENTITY BEST SUITED FOR IR MANAGEMENT



Actions Supported

- 77% agree or strongly agree that academic libraries should **educate** faculty about OA.
- 75% agree or strongly agree that academic libraries should **educate** campus administration about OA.
- 74% agree or strongly agree that academic libraries should **educate** faculty about copyright issues related to faculty's publications.
- 70% agree or strongly agree that academic libraries should **include bibliographic records** for OA journals in their library catalogs .
- 84% agree or strongly agree that academic libraries should **include links** on their websites to OA journals.

TALKING ABOUT OA WITH NON-LIBRARIAN ACADEMIC PROFESSIONALS



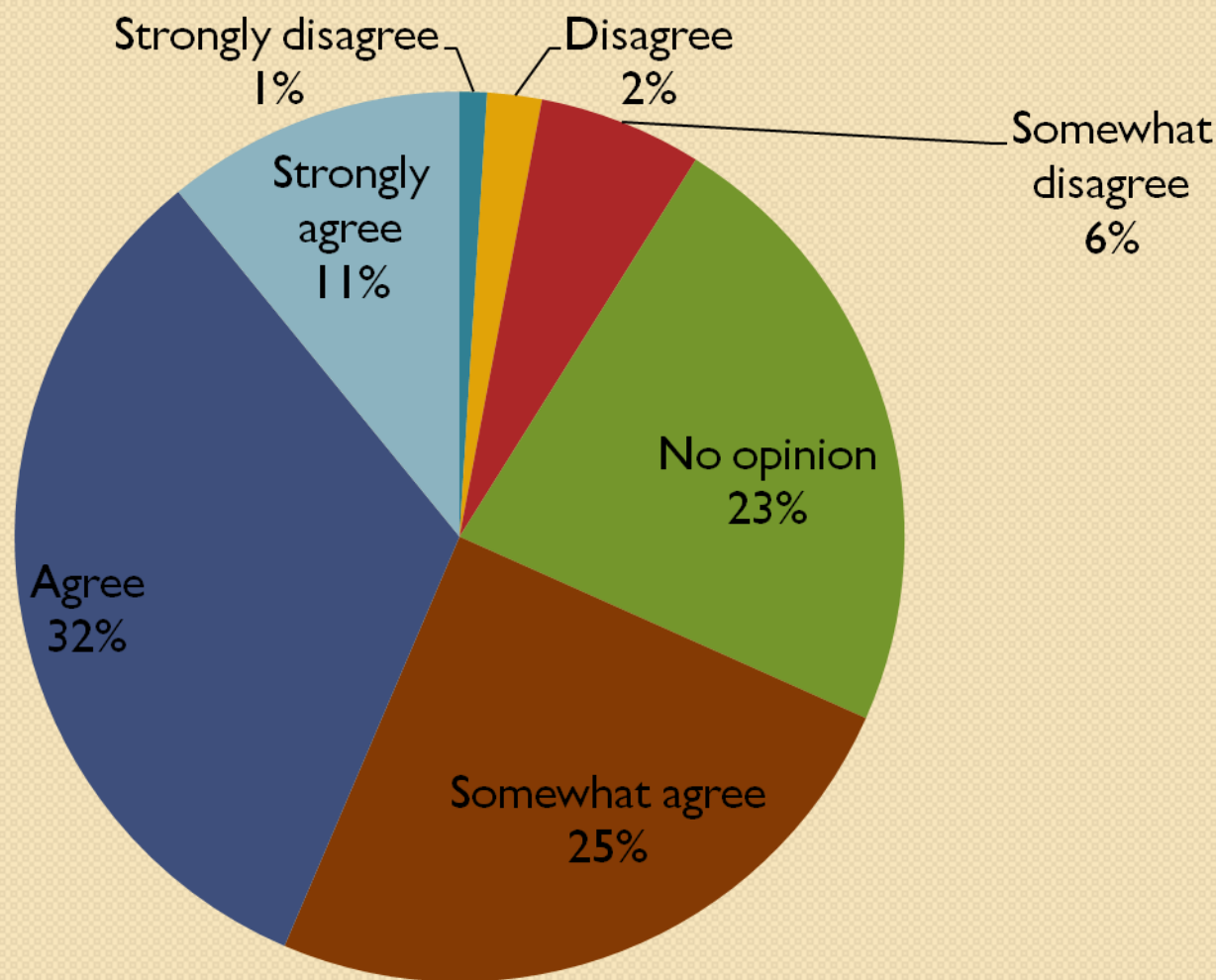
Concepts Supported

- 78% of respondents agree or strongly agree academic libraries should take actions to shape the future of scholarly communication.
- 78% of respondents also agree or strongly agree that the principles of OA relate to the purpose of academic libraries.
- 81% of respondents agree or strongly agree involvement in OA initiatives is one way for academic libraries to remain relevant.

Education Action Taken

- 21% of respondents' institutions were involved in OA education campaigns.
- Only 8 % of respondents personally involved in education campaigns.

SUPPORT FOR LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT OF IMPACT MEASUREMENT TOOLS FOR OA JOURNALS



Actions not fully supported: Financial

- 34% agree or strongly agree that academic libraries should seek **external funding to finance** OA projects.
- 21% agree or strongly agree that providing **financial resources** to support OA should be a priority of academic libraries at this point.
- 13% agree or strongly agree that academic libraries should **reallocate existing resources** to support the development of OA projects.
- 30% agree or strongly agree that academic libraries should **create professional positions** whose main duties concern OA projects.

WHERE DOES THIS LEAVE US?

- In general, respondents believe academic libraries should be involved in changing scholarly communication and that the principles of OA are aligned with the mission of academic libraries.
- BUT, at the same time, respondents do not believe that libraries should contribute to the movement financially.

WHERE DOES THIS LEAVE US?

- Respondents support the idea of academic libraries providing OA education and access to OA resources.
- SO, is this what OA proponents in academic libraries should focus their efforts on (low lying fruit)?
- Or, being a **grassroots movement**, should proponents continue to push on all fronts until ideological and financial support comes around?

WHERE DOES THIS LEAVE US?

- Even though most respondents had positive attitudes about OA, acquisitions and public services librarians had less positive attitudes.
 - Should proponents work on convincing them?
 - Do they have valid reservations that would help proponents understand why OA does not resonate with some faculty?

WHERE DOES THIS LEAVE US?

- 30% of respondents involved in OA projects fully support a position in the library dedicated to OA.
 - Whose job is it really?
- Most respondents said libraries should provide access to OA journals via the OPAC or website.
 - Does the profession need to develop standards or disseminate best practices to help with this?



THOUGHTS, QUESTIONS?

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